Help From Australia

1599. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are proposing to take help/co-operation from and foreign country viz. Austrialia to co-operate in the development of system for providing better facilities to the socially disabled and backward persons; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Assistance for Agriculture Development

1600. SHRI MURLIDHAR JENA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of assistance given to the States and Union territories for the development of Agriculture during the each of last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether some State Government have demanded more assistance during the current year for the purpose and submitted some proposals in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(d) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (d). Information is being collected any will be placed on the table of the House.

Demolition of Houses in Mahavir Enclave

1601. SHRI PITAMBAR PASWAN : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether some persons were killed and a number of persons injured in a police firing recently on the demonstrators protesting against the demolition by the DDA in Mahavir Enclave of the Dabri Area in South West Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have inquired into circumstances leading to the police firing;

(d) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MODH. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. An operation for demolition of certain unauthorisedly built structure on Gram Sabha land of village Nasirpur was carried out on 14.10.1996. as the operation could not be concluded on the same day, it was decided to demolish the remaining structures on the following day. However, before the demolition could be resumed, a large mob assembled near the Police Station Dabri early in the morning to protest against further demolition. This mob was dispersed but some miscreants from the retreating mob indulged in arson and violence. At Vijay Enclave, a huge mob surrounded a police partly which being heavily out-numbered failed to contain the violence and had to resort to a limited firing in which two persons were killed and 14 others were injured.

(c) to (e). The Lt. Governor of Delhi has ordered an inquiry into the incident.

Import of Wastes

1602. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether inspite of criticism by the experts the Government have banned the import of wastes; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) and (b). No Sir. The Government of India have issued a draft notification, dated 27th September, 1996 under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to prohibit the imports of only arsenic, cyanide and mercury bearing wastes. Objections against the imposition of the aforesaid prohibition have been invited. The same shall be finalised upon expiry of 90 days from the date of publication.

[Translation]

Environmental Awareness

1603. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce environmental education at the school level in order to create awareness among all about the environment;

(b) if so, the contribution of the Government and non-Government agencies publishing papers and Journals on the environment; and

(c) the details of the institutions working practically for the protection of environment in the country and the action taken by the Government to encourage them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (c). Environmental education has, in the National Policy on Education, 1986, been made in integral part of the curricula at all stages of education. State Governments/Union Territory